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July 14, 2003

## **“Woman struck, killed by ride at Six Flags New Orleans”**

### **PLEASE COSPONSOR THE NATIONAL AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY ACT (H.R.2207)**

Dear Colleague.

Another week, another death in our amusement parks, another failure to oversee safety, a continuing barrier to proper investigation and prevention due to the federal special interest exemption known as the “roller coaster loophole.”

## **Woman struck, killed by ride at Six Flags New Orleans**

(Thursday, July 10, 2003) - A 53-year-old woman was killed after being struck by the Joker's Jukebox ride at Six Flags New Orleans. She was reportedly standing between the ride and the rail surrounding the ride when she was struck. Witnesses say she was checking to make sure her grandson's seat belt was properly fastened. She died on the way to the hospital.

The ride will remain closed while Six Flags and New Orleans Police investigate. Police are calling the death accidental.

The theme park industry is not exempt from accidents, rider error, operator error, manufacturer error, failure to properly train, or any of the other common miscues that the Consumer Product Safety Commission is intended to track and try to prevent. Why should they be exempt from any federal safety oversight? For further information and to join as a cosponsor of this critical consumer safety legislation, please contact David Moulton at x52836. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/

Edward J. Markey